

## The Times-Dispatch

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### TRAINED SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

Nothing is more certain than that the policy of the State Board of Education is to elect as superintendents of county and city schools men who are trained for that work. The need and the wisdom of exactly this course were emphasized by The Times-Dispatch in an editorial on February 22. In concluding that article we said:

There can be no doubt that the best interests of the children of this State will be served and advanced by requiring every applicant for the position of school superintendent to be not only a trained teacher himself, in order that he may instruct those under him how to impart knowledge, but also to give his entire and undivided time to the immeasurably important work of instructing the young.

Among the many papers that commended this principle was the Virginian-Pilot, which in an editorial on our article heartily approved the demand that school superintendents give their entire time to teaching. The Virginian-Pilot, however, argued that it was often superfluous to require special training or a collegiate degree as an essential requisite for all school superintendents. It is not altogether surprising, therefore, to find the Virginian-Pilot now declaring: "We have no patience with the prescriptive and proscriptive idea that a pedagogic diploma is a sine qua non or even a presumption of qualification in the making of a school superintendent." But we are at a loss to account for the hearty unanimity with which the Virginian-Pilot, the Landmark and the Ledger-Dispatch jump to the conclusion that a news item in this paper as to the next superintendent for Norfolk was "calculated to produce a false and injurious impression of the qualifications of the present incumbent."

We take it as admitted that the present incumbent in Norfolk, Mr. R. A. Dobie, is not a trained teacher. It is also true, as this paper stated, that the State Teachers' Association and the Principals' Association have formally asked the State Board of Education to elect only college or university trained men to the position of superintendents. Furthermore, we have seen no denial of the statement that the School Board of Norfolk, in secret conclave, at one time asked for a specially trained superintendent for Norfolk, and that now the School Board of Norfolk is divided evenly on this issue. We also cheerfully allow the twice cited analogy that General Forrest did not know the manual of military exercises and that Generals Washington and Jackson gained their success and power by innate force rather than by training at military schools. But the fact remains that throughout Virginia there is a deep-seated demand for specially trained men for the position of school superintendents. Whether it is relaxed or not, the "new fangled" theory that college-bred men who have been taught modern methods are the best men to choose as leaders for modern teachers will not give way. That this theory runs counter to the judgment of the press in Norfolk in no way alters the fact of its existence.

Our Norfolk contemporaries utterly mistake our temper and position if they feel that we gratuitously went out of our way to praise or belittle Mr. Dobie, or to arrogate to a Richmond paper the right to meddle in Norfolk local affairs. We gave publicity to the impending fight over the school superintendency in Norfolk solely because that matter concerned the cause of education, to which this paper is wholly devoted. Should the same issue arise in any other city we should follow the same course, not from any vexatious or meddling spirit, but because the issue between trained and untrained men is one that concerns the whole State and we shall comment upon that issue whenever it arises. Should the State Board of Education see fit to re-elect Mr. Dobie for the reasons which the Norfolk papers have so ably and so unitedly given, we will have no word of criticism. But whether this paper keeps silent or not, the fact remains that the day has arrived when a school superintendent to the qualification of administrative ability must be able to add specific training for expert service.

### PAYING \$305,000,000 A YEAR FOR BAD ROADS.

There are 2,100,000 miles of public roads in this country. Only 150,000 miles, or 7 per cent, are improved. All the rest can be fairly described as bad roads. The waste of our natural resources, reckless as it is, is nothing compared to the money waste brought about by this condition of our highways. It costs the French peasant an average of 12 cents a mile per ton to haul his produce to market. It costs the American farmer an average of 25 cents a mile per ton, or 100 per cent more than the Frenchman. During the year 1905-1906 haulings of farm produce to shipping points amounted to

between forty and forty-five million tons weight. The average haul was 0.4 miles. If the farmers could have done their hauling over French roads, instead of their own inferior ones, they would have netted \$68,000,000 more on their crops. But all the hauling to shipping points is not done by farmers by any means. The Interstate Commerce Commission tells us that in all something like 250,000,000 tons are hauled for shipment every year. The willingness to move this immense volume of freight over poor roads, as against good roads such as France enjoys, costs the country a cool and unnecessary \$305,000,000 a year.

These figures and facts come from the office of Logan Waller Page, the United States Director of Public Roads. If anybody can examine them and still think that there is economy of any sort, shape or dimensions in bad roads, we shall be interested to see his line of reasoning.

### TAX REFORM: THE TAX ON BANK DEPOSITS.

The present system of taxing mortgages, which this paper has pointed out as the most striking example of double taxation in Virginia, is by no means the only instance of this injustice. Almost as obnoxious as the mortgage tax, and equally unjust, is the existing method of taxing bank deposits.

As the law now stands, the money deposited by any one in bank is, directly and indirectly, taxed three times by the State. First, the owner is taxed 35 cents for every hundred dollars he has on deposit; second, he pays 1 per cent on the income from the money so deposited; and third, the bank is indirectly taxed on the profit made by it from the deposited funds.

By every law of taxation this system is unjust. In New Hampshire, in Maine and in California, where the question has been recently discussed, the tax commissions have been unanimous in condemning the bank deposits tax. As a matter of fact, it is extremely doubtful whether bank deposits are at any time a legitimate subject of taxation. In but few instances do these funds really represent any accumulated wealth; they are more often the working capital of the depositor, which is already taxed, and which is to be employed in meeting outstanding obligations and in purchasing tangible personal property.

This is certainly the opinion of the vast majority of tax-payers in Virginia, as the returns from this tax abundantly show. No more farcical figures can be imagined. Only \$5,661,593 was returned last year as bank deposits from the entire State. Richmond reported the magnificent sum of \$460,555, although, two years before, five banks in the city reported to the Comptroller of the Currency individual deposits to the amount of \$12,639,449. The truth is that nine out of every ten citizens regard the bank deposits tax as unjust and utterly disregard it. No State has ever been able to realize on this tax at more than 5 per cent of its real value, and California, after arduous efforts, could only reach 2.77 per cent of the known amount of bank deposits.

In such a case, where the tax is disregarded and where it is manifestly unjust, it should be abolished altogether. To do so would mean no great shrinkage in the State's revenue, for the revenue from this source during the last fiscal year was but \$22,955.59. Certainly, where the alternative to secure single taxation is either to abolish the bank deposits tax or to remove the income tax, the former course is far preferable. The income tax is estimated to bring into the State's treasury \$109,553.27, and is eminently just and reasonable. On the other hand, no legitimate excuse for continuing the bank deposits tax has yet been found.

### PHARMACISTS AND DRUGGISTS AGAIN.

The esteemed Charlotte Observer sees wisdom in this paper's suggestion that doctors dispense with the mystifying dog-Latin of their ancestors and write their prescriptions in a simpler and more easily understood form. The Observer fears that this would have the effect of encouraging "the tyro pharmacist." "It is not well," it says, "that soda fountain boys or other raw apprentices should find prescription filling easy." From this it might appear that the chief point of a pharmacist training was to understand and translate the peculiarities of the doctor's vocabulary, and that if these peculiarities were done away with, special training would cease to be necessary. Quite the contrary is the case. Druggists are specialists doing a technical and highly responsible work. No matter in how simple form their directions were couched, they would still need, and would be required to have, an expert's training. As for the idea that filling simply-written prescriptions was "easy," the penalties for the unlicensed practice of pharmacy should be so severe and certain that no tyro or soda boy, and no employer of either, would ever be tempted to exhibit so serious an error of judgment.

That druggists rarely make blunders which kill is a tribute to their competency as a class, but it by no means disposes of the matter. It is the business of every State to see that such tragedies are, so far as is humanly possible, absolutely eliminated. There are two ways in which this end may be sought. One is by strengthening and stiffening the laws regulating the practice of pharmacy. With this object, the best pharmacists in Richmond and elsewhere are heartily in sympathy. Through the efforts of these and of the Board of Pharmacy, some progress was made in this direction in the amendments to the law passed by the last Legislature. But there is room now for a much longer step.

As the law stands, not only registered assistant pharmacists, but registered apprentices may, under certain

conditions, put up prescriptions. The youth who blundered in the recent case here was a registered apprentice. Apprentices should be forbidden to put up prescriptions independently under any circumstances, and the latitude of assistants should be cut down and restricted. Penalties for any violation of the law should be made very heavy. This procedure would make prescription work more expensive to druggists and might raise the price of medicine a little; but it would be a form of life insurance for which every one should be glad to pay.

The other way to minimize the possibility of homicidal mistakes is for doctors to write their prescriptions in the simplest and most intelligible form. If deciphering prescriptions were simply a question of proper training, there might be the less need for this change. It could properly be argued that when a certain standard of skill had been demanded of the pharmacist, all the rest would follow as a matter of course. But this is not the case. It is unhappily true that pharmacists of unquestioned skill not rarely have trouble in deciphering prescriptions from perfectly competent doctors. For in these mysterious symbols and equivalents which the profession uses to avoid taking patients into their confidence, there is, as we have recently seen illustrated here, an unfortunate lack of uniformity. There are doctors in every city who are well-known bug-bears to pharmacists. Richmond is no sense an exception to this rule. There are druggists here of the highest standing and proficiency who could tell tales, if they would, of doctors whose prescriptions they have been compelled to refuse, or threaten to refuse, on account of the way in which they were written. No range of training on the part of the pharmacist can prepare him to handle the knotty intelligibilities of individual physicians under the present system.

So far as we know, there is but one valid argument in favor of the obfuscating method of writing prescriptions, and that is a selfish one. It helps the doctor. It prevents the patient from feeling independent of him next time. But it may well be doubted if this argument is good enough to give a clean bill of health to a custom which in any way promotes confusion with tragic possibilities.

The peach-basket that is a millinery merger, and our own opinion is that it flagrantly defies the Elkins anti-trust law.

A new Jefferson letter, owned by a Richmond lady, has just been published for the first time. However, there is not a word in it to indicate which of the fifty-seven varieties of Democrat is the real thing.

We see no reason why Turkey, at least, should not permit Cuckoo to land. It is highly doubtful if even the grand little trouble-maker could add anything to the perplexities of the mess over there.

O it is grand to be on the right side of eighty and spend the golden afternoon watching the operations of the amazing ball team of Richmond.

Probably a man's opinion of an income tax is colored to a certain extent by the amount of specie in his weekly pay envelope.

The Sultan missed the first trick of his life by not long ago organizing a bodyguard of suffragettes.

The Aprils of Old Virginia are always very clever at stealing home on June.

"Affinity" Earle is complaining of being referred to in this way. Who knows but this is the first step of a climb?

Another ultimatum more or less makes little difference to your Uncle Dudley Abdul.

Being an ex-President entails very heavy responsibilities. Probably he is the only leader in history who ever took a silk hat to Africa.

Senator Aldrich's remarks are not altogether made up of truisms and worn-out platitudes. For instance, he is now giving people to understand that he is a thorough master of currency and finance.

The Washington Herald: "An F. P. A.-less New York Mail to us is a dreamy tale, and it is nothing more." Our own sentiments admirably put, and Mr. Chairman, we rise with a motion to make it unanimous.

After all, the chief merit about an income tax is that it would teach a lot of people that the Dreadnought money has to come from somewhere.

Yet it is doubtful if any miller could make much of a hit by naming a self-rising flour the Patten.

We are informed by a contemporary fight on the ground that "Mr. Taft takes baseball seriously." It is a great tribute to the President's strength of character that he can do this with the Washington collection of sad-eyed tallenders operating hardly a stone's throw away.

### GENERAL BOOTH'S WORK.

Salvation Army's Growth Shows Marvellous Progress. Appropos of the recent eighteenth birthday celebration of the veteran founder and head of the great Salvation Army movement, General William Booth, it is interesting to contemplate the marvelous growth of this worldwide organization.

The initial steps in what was destined to become the crowning achievement of one of the great leaders of the world have been taken in the last century has elapsed, but to-day there is hardly an outpost of the great organization which has not been seized by the marching legions of this great army of crusaders.

## Borrowed Jingles.

### WHAT BUSTED BARREL.

When first by Babes in the Woods, the curse of tongues was felt. They simply went on building. Nor did they ever cease to build. When some one uttered the sound that here is spelt: Polyphrasistomimemegamulation.

They went about their business. Evincing little fear. They even understood. When from an upper tier. They floated to them harshly. Jungfrauenimmerdutchwindchutlunge-gewerein.

But growing terror-stricken. They left the work pell-mell. They dropped the nod and trowel. And scattered with a yell. When on their ears affrighted. This awful jargon fell.

"It's nothing," they murmured by many a paragon. A bristler Klem showed him a sawtooth print on the edge of the rubber."—McLanburgh Wilson, in New York Sun.

### MEREELY JOKING.

Sorrow of Lot. Lot's wife had just been turned to a pillar of salt. "Why couldn't it have been wheat?" he sighed.—New York Sun.

An Unfounded Rumor. "Mrs. Muchmore told me," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "that the new minister came in his vestments when he officiated at our daughter's wedding."

"It ain't true," replied her hostess, as she flung one of her eyes at her. "I got the back of a \$90 rocking chair; 'we brought him over in our limousine.'—Chicago-Herald.

Too Much Devotion. "I've heard you hand always stays in the house," said a woman to her American husband.

"Yes," answered the other. "Once I heard you get settled down in front of his dressing you can't get him out of doors even to bring in an armful of wood."—Washington Star.

### Same Old Story.

"I wonder what 1939 will bring forth?" "I can't say," replied the American. "A bum spring, senatorial refusals to resign, a hot summer, a lot of disappointed penitents, and a cold winter."—Kansas City Star.

### A Remedy.

"I like my house all right," said Luchman, "except for one thing. I guess you'd better get a new one." "What is it?" asked the architect.

"Several times lately I've nearly broken my neck reaching for another step on the stairs, when I got to the top. I guess you'd better put another step there."—Catholic Standard and Times.

### WISDOM IN SMALL DOSES.

A WOMAN who has never seen her husband, she is a patient; man she has married, Atchison Globe.

The Commander of the Faithful is willing and ready to command if he but knew where to find the faithful.—Philadelphia Press.

Remember it is still too early to kill the umpire. Be patient.—Washington Post.

If the census were taken of persons of quality, Charleston would be the American metropolis.—Charleston News and Courier.

In the springtime a young man's fancy often turns to other thoughts than those of love. For instance, he dreams of the joys of the making of suburban lot raising chickens. "Thoughtfully he buys an incubator, \$15.95; a dozen fancy eggs, \$5.40; a hen, \$2.24; and builds a poultry house for \$724 and a half."—Pittsburgh Post.

### THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

Superintendent J. D. Eggleston Looks at the Problem.

As a matter of fact there can be no overnight or overnight solution of the problem of the negro. The negro, and it looks as if he always will be him. The men of the South have to live with the negro; they are the ones who must deal with him.

There is no spirit of hatred toward the negro in the South. The negro is a man, and he is capable of grasping it. It is apparent that the negro is a man, and he is capable of grasping it. It is apparent that the negro is a man, and he is capable of grasping it.

The views expressed to the Tribune correspondent by J. D. Eggleston, Jr., State Superintendent of Education in Virginia, who, in his official capacity, has had to make more or less of a study of the negro problem, are of interest.

"I am," said Mr. Eggleston, "averse to so much public talk about the negro problem, as I have yet to hear any one advance a sane solution of it. Unhappily, one can come forward with a practical idea, in my opinion, it would be best to forget that there is any such thing as a negro problem."

"It is my opinion that there can be no solution, except that of time itself. In the South must deal with the negro problem to the best of its ability, leaving the following generations to take up the work where the preceding one left off, and itself meet the new conditions which may arise. This is the only solution I have to offer."

"One trouble is that this generation is trying to solve these parts of the problem. In other words, it is trying to look too far ahead. The duty of this generation is to meet its part of the problem. If we of today perform that duty rightly, the next generation will find its work less arduous and so on in decreasing ratio until the alchemist's time has worked his wonder and there is no longer a race problem."

The primary duty of the present generation toward the negro, Mr. Eggleston said, is to give him the best practical industrial education possible. "I believe," said he, "that the negro should now be taught to read, write and do his work in a manner which will fit him to pursue successfully his industrial career."

It has been urged that if the South educates the present generation of negroes along the lines indicated by the above, the next generation would not be content with such education; would demand a more advanced education; and would eventually, as he became more and more highly educated, he would be content with nothing short of social equality with the white race.

When this theory was called to Mr. Eggleston's attention, he contended that the negro should be taught to read, write and do his work in a manner which will fit him to pursue successfully his industrial career.

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## SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING

### You Can't Have Dyspepsia and Take Kodol, Because It Digests All the Food You Eat.

Chronic dyspepsia is very hard to cure. Kodol will effectively assist in curing, and it is far more satisfactory to prevent this disease. Kodol prevents dyspepsia, by making the digestion good and keeping it good. It is worth knowing to know this, if you have indigestion and feel that you have dyspepsia. Kodol prevents dyspepsia and makes the digestion good, by digesting all the food you eat. A tablespoonful of Kodol will digest 2-1/2 pounds of food. That is, a tablespoonful of Kodol will digest the quantity of any kind of food you may eat. Not only a single class of food—but all kinds of food, in any combination. You can't have dyspepsia if you take Kodol, because it digests all the food you eat. It is not possible for you to have dyspepsia as long as your food digests properly—and Kodol digests the food you eat. Our guarantee—Get a dollar bottle of Kodol. If you are not benefited by the drug, we will at once return your money. Don't hesitate; any druggist will sell you Kodol on these terms. The dollar bottle contains 2-1/2 times as much as the 50c bottle. Kodol is sold in the laboratories of E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago.

Lord Alfred Douglas seems bent upon retaining notoriety of an unenviable character. It was his foolishness (not small) that he had married the wife of a man of the gift and misguided author of "Lady Windermere's Fan." Lord Alfred's father, the late Lord Queensberry, with the object of breaking off the intimacy, to embark upon those legal proceedings which landed him in the Tower of London in 1895, from which he only emerged in order to go into the exile in which he died. Lord Alfred afterwards visited this country, but as soon as his identity was ascertained, the clubs to which he had obtained access here intimated to him that his presence was unwelcome. This he related him with an intense hatred of everything American, and since he became editor of the London literary weekly, entitled "The Academy," he has never lost an opportunity of attacking, not merely American literature, but American people, conditions, customs, manners, etc. He has again these invectives attract attention.

The other day Lord Alfred again emerged into the limelight in connection with a little incident in the life of a bookmaker, which culminated in the Police Court. There the bookmaker gave evidence that he had been asked to regard to Lord Alfred's glaring lack of punctuality in the payment of obligations that are considered debts of honor. He said that he had been asked to regard to Lord Alfred's glaring lack of punctuality in the payment of obligations that are considered debts of honor.

Like most of the members of his family, he is undeniably gifted, but he is not a man of the world. He is tempted to declare that the standards which apply to normal citizens should not be invoked in the case of a man of his family. He is the chief. (Copyright, 1939, by the Brentwood Company.)

## The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenoy.

Seigneur de la Trinite. JOHN ATHELSTANE RILEY, who is known on both sides of the Atlantic as an explorer, a writer and as one of the chief law authorities in England upon every subject relating to the history and administration of the Established Church, has just obtained a royal warrant and letters patent from the crown, appointing him Seigneur de la Trinite in the Island of Jersey. The Manor de la Trinite is one of the four ancient fiefs of the island, and was at one time the property of the Duke of the royal courts the seigneurs of these baronies were the dispensers of justice, and the Duke of the island was the dispenser of justice.

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the Iron Mask was either Count Mathioli, the treacherous minister of Charles II, Duke of Mantua, or else the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Mathioli was a Frenchman, and would naturally speak his own tongue with a foreign accent, Count Mathioli could not speak French, while the Duke of Mantua, a French soldier of fortune, head of a widespread and formidable conspiracy for the assassination of Louis XIV. But, whether Math